

BOWLING

Expanded committee set to vote on GLBA Hall of Fame nominees

A bigger and broader committee will meet this week to select as many as five men for induction this fall into the Greater Louisville Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

The committee was revamped this spring at the urging of chairman Jacques Curwen, who argued that 10 members weren't enough and that people other than GLBA officials should be added to achieve a more representative vote.

The committee now has 20 members and comprises GLBA officers, proprietors, hall of fame members, league officers, media representatives and equipment suppliers. Membership will rotate.

In addition, the maximum number of annual inductees was raised from three to five, with at least two being picked in the performance category. Others will be cited for service to the sport.

The committee will meet at Ten Pin Lanes on Thursday to consider these 15 nominees:

Don Adams, a top bowler in the 1960s who recently died; **Woody Axton**, owner-operator of Ten Pin; **William Carter**, former owner of Ken-Bowl and Dixie Bowl; **William Curry**, longtime bowler and league official; **Bob Edlin**, holder of numerous GLBA offices.

Gil Frederick Jr., proficient bowler and former owner of several local centers; **Alton Hahn Jr.**, GLBA official and officer of numerous leagues; **Billy Hardwick**, former touring pro; **Mike Herron**, accomplished bowler and bowling center employee; **Robert Jenks**, longtime GLBA officer.

Herb Lyons, who has rolled numerous 800 series and 300 games; **Jack McCarthy**, top bowler and owner of J'town Lanes; **Dave Morton**, successful league and tournament bowler; **David Russell**, top bowler and captain of several ac-



complished tournament teams; **Ray Yocum**, American Bowling Congress tournament champion and owner of Scottsburg (Ind.) Lanes.

Inductees will be announced next month.

■ **Marlyn Browning**, a member of the GLBA hall, has been chosen for induction into the Southern Bowling Congress Hall of Fame. He was cited for winning several titles and

supporting the tournament as a team sponsor.

Also, Louisville's **Jim Ewald** is among the nominees again for the upcoming American Bowling Congress Hall of Fame. Ewald is on the nonprofessional ballot with nine others. More than 175 electors nationwide will vote this fall.

Meriting a mention: Qualifying is under way for the new Merit Bowling Tournament, sponsored by Philip Morris USA and offering nearly \$50,000 in prize money to league bowlers. The event, one of the largest conducted in cooperation with the Bowling Proprietors Association of America, replaces the Cambridge tournament that was dropped two years ago.

Generally, local centers' bowlers with the highest games of the night can enter the center finals in mid-

October, then try to advance to state, regional and national levels. The finals will be Dec. 2-3 in Reno, Nev., as a lead-in to the \$200,000 Merit Professional Mixed Doubles Tournament that will follow.

The tournament offers a generous handicap — 100 percent of a 210 average — so low-average bowlers will be competitive.

Crusaders: The WHAS Crusaders will resume their antics next month at local centers to raise money for the Crusade for Children.

Like last year, a team of WHAS personalities will be at a different center each week to bowl against a league team that won a spot in the exhibition. Generally, teams pay \$5 on their league night for the chance, and the highest team of the week wins.

The weekly exhibitions begin Oct. 13, with the fund-raising and league competition going on the previous week.

Here's the schedule:

Oct. 13, Dixie Bowl; Oct. 20, Executive Bowl; Oct. 27, Fern Bowl; Nov. 3, J'town Lanes; Nov. 10, Ken-Bowl; Nov. 17, Lyndon Lanes or Vernon Lanes; Nov. 24, Okolona Lanes; Dec. 1, Ten Pin Lanes; Dec. 8, Rose Bowl South; Dec. 15, Thelmal Lanes; Jan. 12, Blackiston Bowl; Jan. 19, Bullitt Bowl; Jan. 26, Rose Bowl North; Feb. 2, Pro Bowl I; Feb. 9, Pro Bowl II; Feb. 16, Parkmoor.

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SPORTS SHORTS

Bowler in standings

BATON ROUGE — Local bowler Ann Carpenter of Livingston Parish recently received a Merit Bowling certificate for her league high score at Circle Bowl on Sept. 24.

Carpenter bowled 686 in the High Handicap Series for women, ranking her eighth in Louisiana for the month, according to standings kept in "Stars and Strikes" magazine.

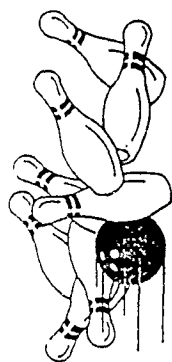
Her high score qualified her for the Merit Cigarettes In-house Championships with an opportunity to ultimately advance to the \$125,000 Merit Pro/Am Championship in Reno, Nevada on Dec. 3.

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**CHUCK
OTTERSON**
BOWLING

■ **MERITED:** Boca Raton's Brian Voss ranks ninth among the PBA's 24 qualifiers for the \$200,000 Merit Mixed Doubles Championship Dec. 4-5 at Reno, Nev. The 24 will be paired with the top 24 qualifiers on the Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour. First prize is \$40,000. Walter Ray Williams Jr. is the No. 1 PBA qualifier.



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Merit Strike

Reno hosts Merit bowling Dec. 4 and 5

Walter Ray Williams Jr. leads PBA qualifiers for mixed doubles championship in Reno

Capping off one of his strongest PBA seasons to date, Walter Ray Williams, Jr. heads the field of 24 men who have qualified for the \$200,000 Merit Mixed Doubles Championship which will be held December 4-5 at Hilton Lanes in Reno, Nevada.

Williams, of Stockton, Calif., will be paired with the Ladies Pro Bowler's Tour (LPBT) top qualifier to compete for the \$40,000 first prize.

The LPBT's 24 qualifiers will be determined following the completion of their season in mid-November.

At that time, the balance of the Merit field will be determined according to the bowlers' positions on their respective point standings (#2 PBA qualifier paired with the #2 LPBT point player, etc.)

The PBA's top 24 point qualifiers for the Merit event are:

1, W.R. Williams, Jr.; 2, Dave Arnold; 3, Amleto Monacelli; 4, David Ozio; 5, Randy Pedersen; 6, Robert Lawrence; 7, Pete Weber; 8, Ron Williams; 9, Brian Voss; 10, Kelly Coffman; 11, Mike Aulby; 12, Dave Ferraro; 13, Eric Forkel; 14, Parker Bohn III; 15, Mark Williams; 16, Bryan Goebel; 17, George Branham III; 18, Bob Learn, Jr.; 19, David Traber; 20, Bob Benoit; 21, Don Moser; 22, Norm Duke; 23, Dave D'Entremont; 24, Del Ballard, Jr.

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State handicap tournaments are about ready to roll



■ Cities also have been chosen for three other tournaments conducted by the proprietors. The Merit Bowling Challenge state finals will be in Bowling Green in November. The Miller Doubles state finals will be in Lexington in February. And the National Family Tournament state finals will be at Newport in June.

Chicago, Illinois BPAs plan busy schedule

Merit Pro/Am kicks off season

The "Merit Star of the Game," an amateur Teague bowling program which will send an Illinois man and an Illinois woman to Reno, Nev., in December to compete in the \$125,000 Merit Pro/Am, kicks off an ambitious year of bowling event and special promotions for the Chicagoland and Illinois State Bowling Proprietors Associations.

The Merit program, to be held in participating bowling centers throughout the state beginning in September, involves recognizing the bowler who rolls the high game during each game of league competition. Merit "Stars of the Game" then are eligible to participate in in-house tournaments for a \$10 entry fee, with one in 10 in-house qualifiers advancing to the

state finals, set for Nov. 20-21 at a site to be announced.

At the state level, one in three bowlers will share in a prize fund estimated at more than \$10,000.

Illinois' top man and woman then will advance to the Merit Pro/Am in Reno, Dec. 2-3, where they will team up with PBA and LPBT stars for shares of a \$125,000 prize fund.

Following the Merit program, Miller Genuine Draft Doubles qualifying will be held during November and December. Sectional rounds will be held in January and regional finals are set for three Illinois regions on Feb. 12. Illinois qualifiers will advance to the Miller national finals in Reno in March.

Nov. 7-20 will be the dates of

preliminary qualifying in the 15th annual CBPA Pins Over Average Tournament, with sectional rounds set for Dec. 11-12 and 18-19, and television finals scheduled for Jan. 8.

The 33rd annual Chicago Sun-Times/BPA "Beat the Champs" preliminary qualifying is set for Dec. 5-11 with sectional rollofs to be held Feb. 19-20 and 26-27. The men's and women's finals will be held March 6 and 13.

Chicago area U.S. Open qualifiers for men and women are scheduled for Jan. 15-16.

February will mark the debut of the new BPAA Avon Women's Bowling Tournament.

A second edition of the Illinois
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Williams and Weber on the Verge of PBA History

AKRON, OHIO — We've all heard it before: "There's no such thing as a sure thing." Then the great philosophers of our time came up with a new one: "Two things in life are certain — death and taxes."

If those same philosophers were to look into their crystal (reactive?) balls, they would find two things for certain about the PBA Tour: Walter Ray Williams Jr. will be the 1993 PBA Player of the Year and Pete Weber soon will sit atop the PBA's all-time earning list. It's a sure thing.

With just two national tournaments remaining, Williams is a certain bet to



WALTER RAY WILLIAMS

win his second PBA Player of the Year award. The question that needs to be answered in the coming weeks is how many PBA records Williams will break en route to the coveted award, which will serve as a bookend for his 1986 selection.

He's already set two scoring records earlier this year. At the Greater Harrisburg Open in Mechanicsburg, Pa.,

before losing to Brian Davis' 299 in the title match. The previous record of three in one tournament was held by eight different players. Also this summer he broke John Denton's record of 56 consecutive games over 200 when he put together 61 in a row.

He broke Tommy Hudson's record of 1,200 games bowled in 1977 at last week's Touring Players Championship in Indianapolis. Williams currently has rolled 1,244 games.

Another record that is a virtual lock is Mark Roth's average record of 221.662 set in 1979. Williams currently is averaging 223.25.

With seven wins, he needs just one more to tie Roth's record of eight, set in 1978. He's also chasing Mike Aulby's yearly earnings record of \$98,237 set in 1989. Williams needs \$13,567 to top Aulby. Consider the last place team at the season-ending Merit Mixed Doubles in Reno, Nev., is guaranteed \$3,400, and Williams will be paired with the Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour (LPBT) point leader in chasing the \$40,000 first prize.

With his two wins this year and \$149,770 in earnings, Weber is just \$26,879 short of overtaking PBA Hall of Famer Marshall Holman for the career earnings lead. Holman is scheduled to bowl the \$225,000 Brunswick Memorial World Open in Lake Zurich, Ill., and Weber will bowl there and has qualified for the Merit Mixed Doubles Invitational.

Weber now has victories in 10 consecutive PBA



PETE WEBER

holds the record with 14, followed by fellow Hall of Famers Don Johnson (12) and Roth (10). This year marks the eighth time Weber has gone over \$100,000 in yearly earnings and ties Holman for the lead.

Five months before his 25th birthday (1987) Weber

became the youngest player in PBA history to win a 10th title. Earlier this year at the IOF Foresters Bowling For Miracles Open in Markham, Ontario, Canada, he captured his 20th title and then became the first double winner of the ninth annual Oronamin C Japan Cup in Tokyo last month.

There are many similarities when comparing Weber and Holman. Both have 21 titles. Both experienced success early in their careers. Weber was the 1980 PBA Rookie of the Year and captured two titles by the end of his third full year on Tour. Holman won three times, including the Tournament of Champions, by the end of his second year. Both have four "major victories." Weber is one of three players to have captured professional bowl-

ing's "Triple Crown."

The only award not in Weber's trophy case is PBA Player of the Year. Many have said that he should have won the award in 1987. Instead, Holman captured the award, becoming the first player to earn the honor without the benefit of a title. Holman led the Tour in average and in points and tied Weber for the most championship round appearances. Weber led the Tour in earnings and captured the Tournament of Champions that year.

It took Holman 13 years and 321 tournaments to reach \$1 million mark. Weber reached that plateau in just 10 years and 253 tournaments.

In 1979 Holman won four titles totaling \$52,000. Weber's two wins this year were worth \$82,000. Hol-

man's yearly earnings average is \$80,248, while Weber is pocketing an average of \$105,205 per annum.

This could be the year we call Walter Ray Williams Jr. the PBA's first \$300,000 man. In a few years we may be calling Pete Weber the PBA's first \$2 million man!

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